

to be the hawk I was looking for, and a beauty, and I have added him to my modest collection of skins. He was evidently living high on Clapper Rails, as he had one in his stomach and another freshly eaten in his crop. — ISAAC F. ARNOW, *St. Marys, Ga.*

The Great Gray Owl near Boston. — On February 7 of this year I saw a Great Gray Owl (*Scotiaptex nebulosa*) in Dedham, Mass. I was attracted to the spot by a great clamor of Crows and soon found my bird perched on a low limb of a white pine in open mixed woods. It held in its claws a dead and partly eaten crow, which when it was finally dropped by the owl in flight, I found to lack the head and fore part of body and the viscera. The owl seemed perfectly fearless of me, but showed nervousness when the crows cawed near by, and followed with its eyes the flight of the single crows that flew over its tree from time to time. I drove it about from tree to tree with snowballs. It flew low and always took a rather low perch, — from ten to twenty feet from the ground, and usually on a large branch of a pine tree, near the trunk, though twice it alighted on the very top of a red cedar. I could get as near as the height of its perch permitted and was frequently within twenty feet of it during the hour or two that I spent in its company. — FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *Boston, Mass.*

The Pileated Woodpecker in Anne Arundel County, Md. — Upon reading the note of Mr. George W. H. Soelner in 'The Auk' for January, 1904, recording the Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophlæus pileatus*) in the District of Columbia, it put me in mind of a record I made November 25, 1896.

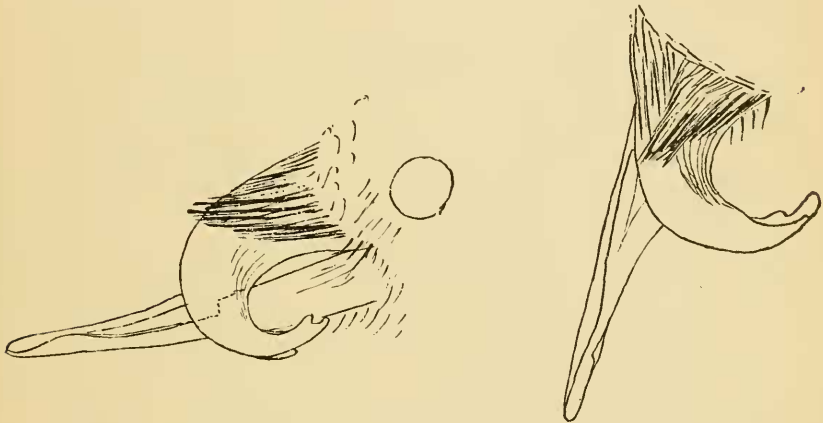
As I was crossing a field bordering some low swampy woodland along Rogue Harbor Creek, I heard the familiar note of this species, and looking up saw one with its broad sweeping flight almost directly over my head, about fifty feet up. This locality was on the line of the Annapolis, Baltimore and Washington R. R., about midway between Odenton and Patuxent.

For the last twenty years, I have found this species to be fairly common while on shooting trips in Somerset County, Maryland, during the months of November, December, and January, always counting upon seeing one or two each day, but on my last trip of ten days' duration, in December, 1903, I neither saw nor heard a single bird. — WILLIAM H. FISHER, *Baltimore, Md.*

Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*), a New Bird for Colorado. — A specimen of this species was found nearly dead in an orchard at Fort Collins, Colorado, about September 14, 1903, by Mrs. R. J. Tenny, who presented it to the Agricultural College. It was given to me for identification and mounting, and after its preparation was sent to Washington for more positive determination, where it was pronounced to be *Antros-*

tomus vociferus, thus adding another species to the list of Colorado birds. At least it is not given in Professor Cooke's list, nor in Mrs. Bailey's 'Birds of the Western United States.' The specimen was in good plumage, but greatly emaciated, although I found no signs of its having been injured.—L. E. BURNETT, *Taxidermist and Collector, State Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colorado.*

Another Abnormal Bill.—The character of the malformed bill submitted by Mr. B. S. Bowdish in the last number of 'The Auk' seems a common type in abnormalities of that kind. I have in my possession the head of a Crow (*Corvus americanus*) afflicted with the same kind of malformation. In this case, however, the upper mandible is bent completely down and around so as to point over the bird's shoulder. The lower mandible is not so greatly elongated as in Mr. Bowdish's specimen, however, but the notches he speaks of where the mandibles cross



MALFORMED BILL OF CROW (*Corvus americanus*). Nat. size.

are very deep. There is no sign of injury to account for the peculiar growth.

It raises an interesting conjecture in regard to the winter and early spring food supply of these birds. It was killed early in March near Port Huron, Mich., 1901, and was evidently starving to death when the shot gun put it out of misery. Its plumage, however, was in good shape, not quite as glossy perhaps as some, but it was quite evident that the bird did not suffer from lack of food at the time of its last moult. What food it could have lived upon during the winter is a subject for speculation. It was an impossibility to pick up anything from the ground with such a bill, and whatever its diet was during the winter, it could not be found in the more northern ranges in early spring.—P. A. TAVERNER, *Chicago, Ill.*